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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/082,170	02/26/2002	Jonathan Samuel Dring	20272/0701	2312

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EXAMINER

HE, AMY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2858

DATE MAILED: 06/19/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/082,170

Applicant(s)

DRING ET AL.

Examiner

Amy He

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 February 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3. 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract is objected to because the following informalities:
 - (1) Delete the redundant word "models" (line 2). Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

2. The Figure is objected to because reference numerals 1,2, 3 and 5 should be designated by text labels. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Al-Dabbagh (U. S. Patent No. 5, 602, 709).

Referring to claims 1-3 and 8-9, Al-Dabbagh discloses a system (34 in Figure 4) for detecting arc faults in an electrical circuit (column 8, lines 41-60), wherein the system comprises: a store of a plurality of temporal models of electrical events associated with arc faults and of events not associated with arc faults (pre-stored standard pattern data

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and/or pattern data obtained, column 15, line 7-9); an interconnection means (current and voltage monitoring circuit 20 and 22 in Figure 3) for extracting from said circuit electrical signals associated with electrical events in said circuit; a processor or means (digital processing circuitry 28 in Figure 4) for processing the signal into a form suitable for comparison with said models; and a comparator or means (column 4, lines 54-59) for comparing the processed signals with said models to determine whether the event giving rise to said signals is an arc fault or not.

Referring to claim 4, Al-Dabbagh discloses a circuit breaker, and wherein said system is arranged to open said circuit breaker when an arc fault is detected (column 9, lines 63-65).

Referring to claims 5-6, Al-Dabbagh discloses that said temporal model are in the form of templates or stochastic models (column 3, lines 43-55).

Referring to claim 7, Al-Dabbagh discloses an artificial neural net (microprocessor 30 in Figure 5) programmed to recognize features of different arcs so as to enable arcs caused by faults in said circuit to be distinguished from other arcs (column 20, lines 6-12).

Referring to claims 10-18, they are the method claims corresponding to the system claims 1-9. They are rejected for the same reasons as stated above for the rejection of the system claims.

Conclusion

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4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Boksiner et al. (U. S. Patent No. 5, 047, 724)-- A system for detecting an arcing fault by comparing power values with recorded template models.


5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Amy He whose telephone number is (703) 305-3360.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5pm Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, N. Le can be reached on (703) 308-0750.

6. The official Fax numbers for the organization are (703-872-9318) Before-Final and (703-872-9319) After-Final Office actions. Any inquiry of a general nature relating to this application should be directed to the receptionist at (703) 305-4900.

ah
AH
June 11, 2003


JAY PATIDAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER